

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for synchronizing managed data stored by at
2 least first and second computing devices, the method comprising:
3 establishing a communication link between the first and second
4 computing devices;
5 automatically identifying the managed data stored on the first
6 computing device for synchronization;
7 automatically transferring synchronization information associated
8 with the managed data stored on the first computing device to the second
9 computing device over the communication link;
10 reconciling differences in the managed data stored on the first and
11 second computing devices based on the synchronization information to generate
12 reconciliation information; and
13 transferring the reconciliation information from the second
14 computing device to the first computing device to synchronize the managed data.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of establishing a
2 communication link comprises establishing a wireless communication link.

1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of establishing a
2 wireless communication link comprises automatically establishing a wireless
3 communication link based on proximity of the first and second computing
4 devices.

1 4. The method of claim 2 wherein the wireless
2 communication link is a radio frequency communication link.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of establishing a
2 communication link comprises exchanging authentication information.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the authentication
2 information includes information that uniquely identifies the first computing
3 device.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the authentication
2 information includes a MAC address associated with a network interface card of
3 the first computing device.

1 8. The method of claim 5 wherein the authentication
2 information includes information that uniquely identifies a user of the first
3 computing device.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the authentication
2 information includes biometric information associated with the user.

1 10. A method for synchronizing managed data stored on a
2 mobile computing device and a stationary computing device, the method
3 comprising:
4 automatically establishing a wireless communication link between
5 the computing devices when the mobile computing device is within a
6 predetermined proximity of the stationary computing device;
7 automatically identifying the managed data for synchronization
8 based on authentication of at least one of the mobile computing device and an
9 associated user; and
10 automatically exchanging synchronization information between the
11 mobile and stationary computing devices such that the managed data stored on
12 the mobile computing device matches the managed data stored on the stationary
13 computing device.

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of automatically
2 identifying the managed data comprises authenticating the associated user based
3 on biometric information.

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12. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of automatically identifying the managed data comprises authenticating the mobile computing device based on a hardware address.

13. The method of claim 10 further comprising presenting conflicting data based on the synchronization data to a user for reconciliation.

14. A system for synchronizing managed data, the system comprising:
a mobile computing device having a wireless communication interface and a first storage medium for storing managed data, the mobile computing device including a processor for running a synchronization client application; and
a synchronization server having a wireless communication interface and a second storage medium for storing managed data, the synchronization server including a processor for running a synchronization server application, wherein the synchronization server automatically establishes communication with the mobile computing device when the mobile computing device is within a predetermined area, automatically identifies the managed data on the mobile computing device, and automatically transfers synchronization information via the synchronization server and client applications and the wireless communication interfaces to the synchronization server, the synchronization server application reconciling differences between the managed data on the mobile computing device and the synchronization server to synchronize the managed data and transferring synchronized managed data to the mobile computing device.

15. The system of claim 14 further comprising:
means for uniquely identifying the mobile computing device;
wherein the synchronization server automatically transfers the synchronization information based on identity of the mobile computing device.

1 16. The system of claim 14 further comprising:
2 means for collecting biometric information associated with a user
3 of the mobile computing device;
4 wherein the synchronization server authenticates the biometric
5 information before automatically transferring the synchronization information.

1 17. A computer readable storage medium having stored data
2 representing instructions executable by a computer for synchronizing managed
3 data stored on a mobile computing device and a stationary computing device, the
4 computer readable storage medium comprising:
5 instructions for automatically establishing a wireless
6 communication link between the computing devices when the mobile computing
7 device is within a predetermined proximity of the stationary computing device;
8 instructions for automatically identifying the managed data for
9 synchronization based on authentication of at least one of the mobile computing
10 device and an associated user; and
11 instructions for automatically exchanging synchronization
12 information between the mobile and stationary computing devices such that the
13 managed data stored on the mobile computing device matches the managed data
14 stored on the stationary computing device.

1 18. The computer readable storage medium of claim 17
2 wherein the instructions for automatically identifying the managed data comprise
3 instructions for authenticating the associated user based on biometric
4 information.

1 19. The computer readable storage medium of claim 17
2 wherein the instructions for automatically identifying the managed data comprise
3 instructions for authenticating the mobile computing device based on a hardware
4 address.

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- 1 20. The computer readable storage medium of claim 17 further
- 2 comprising instructions for presenting conflicting data based on the
synchronization data to a user for reconciliation.

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